# Course Syllabus - Elementary Sanskrit

**FL 295-601 and 602 – 3 Credit Hours**

## Course Description

Are you fascinated by the famous Indian epic poem, the Bhagavad Gita? Are you interested in yoga, Hinduism, Jainism, or Buddhism and want a deeper understanding of the Yoga Sutras or other foundational texts? Learn Classical Sanskrit and gain access to an extraordinary body of literature eight times larger than that of Ancient Greek and Latin combined. During this yearlong series, students will learn to read and translate brief passages from famous epics and sutras and learn to chant brief passages from the Bhagavad-Gita and Yogasutra. Its position in the cultures of South and Southeast Asia is akin to that of Latin and Greek in Europe and Hebrew in Abrahmic Religions. It has evolved into, as well as influenced, many modern-day languages of the world. Dating back to as early as 1500 BCE, Vedic Sanskrit is the earliest attested Indo-Aryan language, and one of the earliest attested members of the Indo-European language family.

## Learning Outcomes

Students who complete the two-semester Elementary Sanskrit sequence will

1. Be able to read and write in the Nagari script
2. Have a rating of Elementary on the ACTFL-FSI scale or its equivalent in listening, reading, and writing
3. Have worked with the basic grammatical constructions in Sanskrit
4. Have basic knowledge of Sanskrit based cultures of Asia

## Course Structure

Class time will be divided between lectures and discussions based on the required readings.

## Instructors

**Dr. Pankaj Jain** – Assistant Professor  
**Email:** pankajaindia@gmail.com

## Course Meetings

**Meeting Notes**

Online at: [http://moodle.wolfware.ncsu.edu/](http://moodle.wolfware.ncsu.edu/)

## Course Materials

**Textbooks**

*Devanipravesika* - *Robert D Goldman and Sally Sutherland J. Goldman*  
**Edition:** 2009  
OR  
This textbook is required.

Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Students are expected to come to class having completed all written, readings, and viewing assignments and should be prepared to actively participate in meaningful discussion about readings in question and/or complete a short fact-quiz (these will be occasional, but usually unannounced). Active participation may include sharing your questions and comments about the readings with the class, engaging your classmates in relevant and meaningful dialogue based on the topics/readings, and/or participating in other class activities (e.g., small group discussions, worksheets, and so forth) online on <a href="http://MoodlePilot.ncsu.edu">http://MoodlePilot.ncsu.edu</a>. Class preparation and participation is evaluated using the following criteria: A+ (100%) Outstanding class preparation and class participation. Student meets and exceeds all criteria for &quot;A&quot; (described below). A (95%) Student comes to class prepared, having read and thought about the assigned films and texts and having completed all written assignments. Student often comes with written notes, and participates actively in class. Student arrives on time, stays the full length of the class, is attentive, responds when called upon, and volunteers frequently with pertinent questions and comments. B (85%) Student is usually prepared, sometimes with written notes, and responds when called upon. Student is attentive, participates in all activities, and volunteers with questions and comments on occasion. C (75%) Student shows evidence of being unprepared from time to time. Due to lack of preparation, student may have some trouble responding to instructor’s questions or participating in class discussion/activities. Student does not volunteer often and</td>
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Component | Weight | Details
---|---|---
sometimes comes to class late/leaves early. |  | D (65%) 
Student is unprepared and/or inattentive. Student never volunteers and regularly comes to class late/leaves early. |  | F (0%) 
Student exhibits a lack of concern for the class, sleeps in class, or distracts his/her classmates. Student’s behavior has a negative effect on the class. |

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<thead>
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<th>Weight</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Midterm Exam</strong></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Memorization of vocabulary words, noun and verb charts, and grammatical understanding will be tested in the Midterm Exam.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Weekly Homeworks</strong></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Translations from Sanskrit to English and vice versa will be assigned every week as homeworks.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Final Exam</strong></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Final exam will comprise of translations and other grammatical concepts covered in the semester.</td>
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**Letter Grades**

This Course uses Standard NCSU Letter Grading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>97 ≤</th>
<th>≤ A+</th>
<th>100</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93 ≤</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>&lt; 97</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 ≤</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>&lt; 93</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87 ≤</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>&lt; 90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83 ≤</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>&lt; 87</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 ≤</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>&lt; 83</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>77 ≤</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>&lt; 80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73 ≤</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>&lt; 77</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 ≤</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>&lt; 73</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67 ≤</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>&lt; 70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63 ≤</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>&lt; 67</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 ≤</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>&lt; 63</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 ≤</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt; 60</td>
<td></td>
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**Requirements for Credit-Only (S/U) Grading**

In order to receive a grade of S, students are required to take all exams and quizzes, complete all assignments, and earn a grade of C- or better. Conversion from letter grading to credit only (S/U) grading is subject to university deadlines. Refer to the Registration and Records calendar for deadlines related to grading. For more details refer to [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.15.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.15.php).
Requirements for Auditors (AU)

Information about and requirements for auditing a course can be found at http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/pols_regs/REG205.00.5.php.

If a student takes the course on an Audit (AU) basis, then regular attendance and completion of all assignments, quizzes and exams is required.

Policies on Incomplete Grades

If an extended deadline is not authorized by the instructor or department, an unfinished incomplete grade will automatically change to an F after either (a) the end of the next regular semester in which the student is enrolled (not including summer sessions), or (b) the end of 12 months if the student is not enrolled, whichever is shorter. Incompletes that change to F will count as an attempted course on transcripts. The burden of fulfilling an incomplete grade is the responsibility of the student. The university policy on incomplete grades is located at http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/grades_undergrad/REG02.50.3.php.

Late Assignments

Late submissions will be marked down one letter grade per day, except in the case of excused absences. Extensions will be granted only in extenuating circumstances, at the discretion of the instructor, in line with university policy on attendance. In the case of an excused absence, students should submit any missed assignments on the next class day that he/she is in attendance.

Academic Integrity

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Students are required to comply with the university policy on academic integrity found in the Code of Student Conduct found at http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/student_services/student_discipline/POL11.35.1.php

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Assignments are intended to assess individual knowledge and understanding of the subject matter. For all work in this course, every student must abide by the North Carolina State University Honor Pledge (see below). Failure to abide by the Pledge will result in a grade of "F" and possible disciplinary action by the university

Academic Honesty

See http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/student_services/student_discipline/POL11.35.1.php for a detailed explanation of academic honesty.

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. In addition, aiding and abetting others to cheat or plagiarize will also not be tolerated. All individuals involved in an act of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

Honor Pledge

Your signature on any test or assignment indicates "I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this test or assignment."

Electronically-Hosted Course Components
Students may be required to disclose personally identifiable information to other students in the course, via electronic tools like email or web-postings, where relevant to the course. Examples include online discussions of class topics, and posting of student coursework. All students are expected to respect the privacy of each other by not sharing or using such information outside the course.

**Accommodations for Disabilities**

Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. In order to take advantage of available accommodations, student must register with the Disability Services Office ([http://www.ncsu.edu/dso](http://www.ncsu.edu/dso)) located at 1900 Student Health Center, Campus Box 7509, 515-7653. For more information on NC State’s policy on working with students with disabilities, please see the Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Regulation at [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.1.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.1.php).

**Policy on Discrimination**

NC State University provides equality of opportunity in education and employment for all students and employees. Accordingly, NC State affirms its commitment to maintain a work environment for all employees and an academic environment for all students that is free from all forms of discrimination. Discrimination based on race, color, religion, creed, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation is a violation of state and federal law and/or NC State University policy and will not be tolerated. Harassment of any person (either in the form of quid pro quo or creation of a hostile environment) based on race, color, religion, creed, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation also is a violation of state and federal law and/or NC State University policy and will not be tolerated. Retaliation against any person who complains about discrimination is also prohibited. NC State’s policies and regulations covering discrimination, harassment, and retaliation may be accessed at [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/campus_environ](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/campus_environ) or [http://www.ncsu.edu/equal_op](http://www.ncsu.edu/equal_op). Any person who feels that he or she has been the subject of prohibited discrimination, harassment, or retaliation should contact the Office for Equal Opportunity (OEO) at 515-3148.